



Illinois Ethics Matters

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Honesty, Integrity, Service

A newsletter from the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies
of the Illinois Governor

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Recent News

The OEIG is pleased to announce the following changes to its staff:

- **Kristy Shores** was promoted to Chief of Staff in addition to her duties as First Deputy Inspector General, effective December 1, 2014.

Four Illinois Department of Human Rights Investigators Found to have Falsified Documents



On December 1, 2014, an OEIG Final Summary Report involving four Illinois Department of Human Rights (DHR) Investigators found to have falsified documents became public in redacted form.

In re: Isabella Gordon et al, Case #11-02202 began with a referral from DHR alleging that one of its investigators had engaged in wrongdoing. Shortly thereafter, DHR referred a second allegation of wrongdoing relating to another of its investigators. The OEIG self-initiated an expanded investigation into misconduct involving additional investigators. Eventually, the OEIG identified a total of four DHR investigators that had falsified documents relating to discrimination claims they were assigned to investigate.

The documents the DHR investigators falsified were called “extension forms” and were supposed to be signed by the parties involved in the complaint. But the OEIG found that signatures had been forged or altered by DHR investigators **Isabella Gordon, Derrick Venton, Jill Parker, and Dean Reed**. All four DHR investigators resigned prior to the conclusion of the OEIG investigation.

“The very persons DHR hired to investigate claims of unlawful discrimination themselves engaged in misconduct.”

—Assistant Inspector General Daniel Ostrovsky

The OEIG’s expanded investigation also discovered that after the four DHR investigators obtained the extensions based on falsified forms, they did little to no investigative work on the discrimination complaints for which they falsified the extension form. In addition, the OEIG also found lax management over DHR investigators and found that DHR management provided minimal oversight of investigators after as little as six months on the job.

As a result of the OEIG investigation, DHR has implemented new practices and procedures aimed at improving how they handle their discrimination investigations.

Kristy Shores

First Deputy Inspector General and Chief of Staff

Illinois Dept. of Insurance Employee Submits False Reports

In a recently released OEIG Final Summary Report, the OEIG found that Illinois Department of Insurance (DOI) Field Staff Examiner Anita Reikalas submitted multiple false travel receipts for expenses not incurred.

“As a DOI Field Staff Examiner, Ms. Reikalas is trusted to make her own travel arrangements. Contrary to this trust, Ms. Reikalas submitted false documentation.”

In Re: Anita Reikalas, Case #12-01729, concluded that **Ms. Reikalas** also failed to cooperate with OEIG investigators.

The OEIG investigation found that in support of her reimbursement requests, Ms. Reikalas submitted to DOI numerous fictitious credit card receipts for transportation.

Ms. Reikalas resigned shortly after the OEIG concluded its investigation.

Angela Luning

Assistant Inspector General

Calendar of Events: January 6-16, 2015: Investigator Kevin McKenna will attend Criminal Investigations Academy in Glynco, Georgia. Please contact David Morrison at david.morrison@illinois.gov if you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter